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THE

PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

[November 18, 1786.

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PROCEEDINGS of the General Assembly, convened at Philadelphia.

(Continued from our laft.)

Thurfday, September 7, A. M.

THE following clauſe was read and agreed to.

"Provided nevertheleſs, and be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if any perſon ſhall be convicted in any county within this ſtate, of any offence which had been committed before publication of this act, and for which he or ſhe, by the laws now in force, would be liable to ſuffer the pains of death: that if ſuch convict openly pray the court before which ſuch conviction ſhall be had, that ſentence be paſſed upon him or her according to the proviſions of this act for ſuch offence: that then and in ſuch caſe the court ſhall paſs ſuch ſentence as aforeſaid on ſuch convicts, and no other, as if the offence of which he or ſhe ſhall be ſo convicted had been committed after the publication of this act."

Then was read,

"And be further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That this act ſhall be in force and have effect, as to the herein offences mentioned and provided for, which ſhall have been committed within years from and after the publication of the ſame, and no longer."

And Mr. Whitehill deſired to inſert, after the words "and have effect," theſe words, "from and after the firſt day of November next;" it was a neceſſary conſequence of the amendment of the preceding clauſe.

Mr. Rittenhouſe moved to ſtrike the clauſe out altogether, as he thought it unneceſſary.

Mr. Whitehill thought it a very good and neceſſary clauſe to be retained, leſt a repeal, ſo that the criminal ſhould eſcape under the ſentence to the full quantum of death. The houſe might fix any time for the continuance of this act to be in force; it might be three, five or ſeven years, to give it a fair trial; and the clauſe ought to be retained for that purpoſe: he would for experiment, propoſe three years; and it was ordered to be filled up accordingly with 3 years.

Mr. Foulke moved, that the term of three years might commence from and after the next ſitting of the general aſſembly.

Mr. Whitehill did not chuſe to leave it in their power to enact any thing that might be wrong; he would ſecond the motion: which was agreed to.

And then the remaining clauſes were read.

Mr. Lollar aſked, which county was to bear the expence of removing, cloathing, &c. the priſoners; the one they were brought from, or the one they were going to? He wiſhed ſome explanation of this matter, as he could not aſcertain preciſely the intention from the words of the bill.

Mr. Whitehill made the explanation, and concluded with ſaying ſome gentleman would inſert words more particularly expreſſive.

Mr. Lollar ſaid, he was not prepared to do it, and wiſhed, until proper amendments could be got ready that the further conſideration of the bill might be poſtponed: which was agreed to.

Mr. Clymer preſented a bill drawn up agreeable to the prayer of Mrs. Smith, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Foulke deſired that the report of the committee to whom was referred the returns of taxable inhabitants, which was read yeſterday the laſt time, be now read again: when

Mr. Morris obſerved, that the returns of taxable inhabitants were required by law to be made under certain forms: he remarked a great difference in the ſeveral returns; Prieſt, Cheſter and others had returned women, but this had not been adopted by all the other counties: two of them had returned their numbers in figures, and one had as yet made no return at all. He thought it the duty of this houſe to have the returns made ſtrictly conformable to law, and that they ought not to accept thoſe which were not; alſo, that the committee would have acted properly in not fixing the ratio, ſo long as any or certainty kept back its return, for that they ought firſt to have the the proper materials, by which they might be enabled to decide with accuracy and juſtice. The commiſſioners of the city and county of Philadelphia ſhould ſee that ſupplementary returns be made of thoſe freemen mechanics and manufacturers who are omitted because of their want of taxable property under the funding law as their right of repreſentation would be materially affected thereby. For theſe reaſons, he would with the buſineſs to be poſtponed, and more ſo, if no good reaſons were aſſigned for going on with it.

Mr. Smilie got up to reply, but Mr. Morris informing that he had not moved the poſtponement, he ſat down; and

Mr. Lollar ſaid, that the reaſoning of that worthy gentleman would have been very proper on the next clauſe; but as preſent the ratio is what is before the houſe, and that might be fixed without the ſupplemental returns being brought in.

Mr. Robinſon ſaid, before we reſolve upon any ratio whatſoever, we ſurely ought to have all the returns before us, ſo that we might ſee which would be the moſt juſt, and make it ſuch as ſhould do the leaſt injury to one and give no advantage to another: if without theſe lights we fix the number entitled to one repreſentative, it may give an undue advantage to ſome counties and take from others thoſe they are entitled to. The quota could not be aſcertained while one of the returns were wanted: for it is very material to have the different calculations made before the ratio is fixed, that it may be ſeen where the moſt juſt degree of repreſentation lies; if we calculate upon 1500, 1000, 9000 and 750, it is clear and certain that the proportion of repreſentatives will not be equally exact to all the counties; and before we proceed further it will be neceſſary to have the returns in. The member from the city informs that the commiſſioners from the city and county of Philadelphia mean to make ſupplemental returns for the omiſſions which were made, and which I think ſhould be waited for. The different and incorrect manner in which the ſeveral returns have been brought in: theſe I think are ſufficient reaſons for poſtponing the further conſideration of the report; and as that motion has not been already made, I ſhall make it; which he did; and

Mr. Morris ſeconded it.

Mr. Smilie wondered how long the gentlemen would delay this buſineſs. It was a law that ought to be paſſed as ſoon as poſſible: what reaſons are aſſigned for deferring this buſineſs? why, one return is not come in, and the committee without it were unable to conſider how far they ſhould affect the proportion of repreſentation! For my part, I wiſh the committee had not ſeen a ſingle return until the ratio had been fixed: for after their having them all but one in their poſſeſſion, the houſe has ſtill to fix it. He thought if the returns had none of them yet come to hand, they might proceed in the buſineſs for he did not conceive it to be neceſſary to inſert the number of inhabitants of the proper counties until the third reading of the bill, and he thought the number in the return which was wanting could not differ much from what it had be at the laſt time it was aſcertained. As to thoſe which expreſs their amount in figures, he ſhould only ſay, that if they did not attend to their truth, it was only counting their perſons, for all their crimes were particularly enumerated therein. He thought them very little imperfect by their want of form: and ſaid, that this law ſhould paſs as ſoon as poſſible: for if it was not done now it never could be done: and that the government would ceaſe. That women had been returned by ſome counties and not by others has been mentioned: but it is agreeable to the conſtitution that they ſhould be returned, and in thoſe who have omitted them it cannot make much difference, their number being ſo ſmall. He here quoted the 13th ſection of the conſtitution. Now, ſir, what are we to do? Are we to ſend to Cumberland for the return that is wanting, and to Weſtmoreland and Northumberland to have the ſum of thoſe figures wrote in words? No, ſir, it is not now practicable: theſe things ſhould have been done ſooner; for we have hardly time left to ſend to the leſt the diſtant counties know the number of repreſentatives which they ſhall have a right to ſend, before the time of the general election comes on.

Mr. Fitzſimons ſaid he was one of the committee to whom had been referred the ſeveral returns: that he had found them grounded upon different principles as had been mentioned: at the ſame time it is but juſtice to ſay, that thoſe returns which had their amount in figures, were accurate in that reſpect; for he had counted over the names, and found they correſponded with the amount ſet down in figures. What detained the return from Cumberland he could not ſay, but ſuppoſed ſome of the aſſeſſors or commiſſioners had refuſed or neglected to make them. The law had not been particular enough on this head to oblige them to bring them forward; it would have been much better had a compulſive power been expreſſed in the law. As to the return from the city and county of Philadelphia, the repreſentation may be greatly affected by it: the mechanics and manufacturers, who had no real eſtates were omitted; becauſe the returns were made out agreeable to the funding law, which exonerated them from the payment of taxes. It is now the duty of the commiſſioners to bring in their ſupplementary returns, which, if they do not, and their repreſentation in this houſe is injured, it is not our fault: and if they do not come in immediately, yet ſtill it may be proper to go on with this buſineſs.

Mr. Morris. I do not now, nor did I at firſt mean to give this buſineſs more importance than it deſerved. In oppoſing the further conſideration of this report, I did more than what I thought my duty, but I believe now it is not of much importance any more than as a precedent, however, the commiſſioners in making their returns have not conformed literally with the law, and if there is time enough to compel an exact compliance, it ought to be effected. If this bill is paſſed before the end of the ſeſſion, our duty is done; in the mean time all the corrections of the returns may be made, as the returns are almoſt all come in. The ratio of repreſentation may be made from them; I would not pretend to inſinuate that the return from Cumberland is kept back that they may be able to get a larger ſhare of the repreſentation, when once the quota is fixed. No, I do not believe that is the caſe: but we ought not eaſily to eſtabliſh this preſident. The committee to whom was referred the returns ſhould have reported particularly, and added the ſteps neceſſary to be taken with thoſe counties that have not made their returns agreeable to law, and that on the third reading of the bill the objections would come forward with as much force as now, that the preſent uncertainty is removed in my mind, and we may fix the ratio, nor do I ſee any inconvenience ariſing therefrom.

Mr. Whitehill roſe juſt to make a few remarks, and thought the ought to guard againſt preceſents in every part of their conduct: but in this inſtance they did not form one, for they were going on according to law and the conſtitution. It appears one county has not made their returns; ſeveral have omitted to inſert the women, yet ſuch as they are, the law muſt be made upon them; and if they are wrong we cannot ſet them to rights. If the county commiſſioners have not made proper returns, it is they that muſt be puniſhed, but the returns are valid: the law has prevented our altering them, and we cannot do it, for it would take as long time to do it in as this houſe has to ſet. He concluded with a hope that the buſineſs would go on.

The motion for poſtponing was withdrawn.

Mr. Evans moved to ſtrike out the 1000 and leave a blank, as the return from Cumberland had not come in.

Mr. Lollar obſerved, there could be no reaſon for ſtriking it out now: becauſe when it came before the houſe, if the member was not ſatisfied with the number, he might move then to have an alteration made. He was againſt leaving it a blank.

Mr. Fitzſimons remarked, it was always in the power of the houſe to alter it after the bill was formed; but he wiſhed ſincerely that the houſe would fix upon the ratio, becauſe he was ſenſible it would forward the buſineſs; for which purpoſe he had made an eſtimation on the whole number; ſuppoſing the return not come in to be 1000, it was 65,377 inhabitants, which he had divided by 900, 1000 and 1150, which he found thus:---900 would ſend 73 members, 1000 give 66, and 1150 would reduce the number to 57.--- At whatever ratio they fixed it, they ſhould conſider how many repreſentatives would be neceſſary, and what the houſe ſhould conſiſt of. If 73 is too many, reduce it, if 66 is too great a number, make it 57, which if affected by the returns yet to come in, the houſe would ſtill remain competent to decide.

Mr. Finlay was againſt leaving a blank, for that he ſaid was omitting a very material part of the buſineſs.

Mr. Whitehill ſaid if it was left a blank we were juſt where we were; and wanted to know what was the uſe of appointing the committee.

Mr. Smilie was againſt leaving it a blank, for this reaſon; if the bill was publiſhed but one day, the houſe might have the advantage of gaining the opinion and advice of ſome ſenſible perſons on the ſubject, and at the laſt reading any member might move for any alteration he thought fit.

Mr. Morris thought it would not be well to conclude the buſineſs finally: it would be too haſty. He did not wiſh to have the [illegible]

made [illegible] that kind of conduct. He thought it [illegible] to [illegible] the proceedings which [illegible] gentleman. The gentleman from Cumberland [illegible] which [illegible] the matter for[illegible] much [illegible], faid fome time ago, [illegible] the bill have paffed the ſenate laſt Monday [illegible] that laſt houſe I cannot ſay, nor will [illegible] impoſition for their detention. I [illegible] to ſtate at preſent, for when the [illegible] underſtood, if any good reaſons are aſſigned, we can change the number.

Mr. Whitehill obſerved, that if the commiſſioners of Cumberland county were negligent of and had not done their duty, he did not ſtand there to plead their cauſe; he was ſorry that the returns had not come in ſooner now, but were the reaſons known, an excuſe might be made.

The motion to leave it a blank was negatived.

Mr. Lowrey moved to fill up with 1200, for the general ratio throughout the ſtate is that the number of repreſentatives is too great.

Mr. Findley was againſt the amendment, and ſaid we ſhould have a leſs number in our houſe of repreſentatives than any other ſtate in the union, and why ſhould we diminiſh more than one-fourth part at once. He deſired the ſame to conſider the nature of the alteration, and how, by leaving government in the hands of a few, it approached to an ariſtocracy: he ſaw no good argument for reducing the number of repreſentatives, but that of leſſening, and if we muſt ſave, let it be by reducing wages through all the departments: it might then be to ſome amount. He thought that reducing one-fourth was a conſiderable ſtep, and correſponded with the wiſhes of their conſtituents.

Mr. Fitzſimons obſerved, it would be the duty of the houſe to conſider whether 55, which 1200 would give; or 67 which 1000 would allow, ſhould be the proportion: he left it with the houſe to decide. The gentleman wanted to perſuade the houſe they were in great danger by reducing the number of repreſentatives: our conſtituents do not think ſo. Yet, though I confeſs I am one of thoſe who think it neceſſary to leſſen the expences of government. I do not ſee that a reduction of ten members from this houſe will effect much. We ſhould comply in the ratio of repreſentation that was fixed.

Mr. Whitehill ſaid, that if we looked to the different ſtates, we ſhould find ſome with 200, and ſome 2 or 3 members; their wiſdom repreſents to them the propriety of having a large number of repreſentatives. He thought that we ſhould at leaſt have 67, and not bring down the houſe to a mere cypher.

Mr. M'Connaghy thought that 55 or 56 was full enough; and deſired the houſe to look round and ſay, if one half of the members juſt now ſitting there would not do the buſineſs with as much diſpatch, and full as well as the whole body.

Mr. Smilie remarked, that Maſſachuſetts had 300 members in their legiſlative bodies; Carolina 250, and Virginia 200. He thought them full as wiſe as we were: he ſaid the only argument in favor of a ſmall repreſentation was ſaving. If we muſt ſave, let us ſave, ſays he, from any other department than this. He alſo called upon any gentleman to ſay, if 67 men were not few enough to exerciſe the ſole legiſlative power over this ſtate. He obſerved, that however the ratio might be fixed, it could make no odds in the county he repreſented; ſo that he was clearly unprejudiced in giving his opinion.

Mr. Morris added a few words, and believed that the gentlemen who were for reducing the expences of government, were affected by that argument in favor of lowering the repreſentation. He remarked it was very improper to be ſaving in this place: theſe men have the diſpoſal of all the public monies, and if you reduce their wages they will raiſe them again: and notwithſtanding the clamour againſt their having ſuch high wages, he was of opinion, that if we would have ourſelves well governed, we muſt pay for it; and though bribery had not yet made its way into this country, yet it might, and it was more difficult to bribe an hundred than ten; moreover, in the multitude of council there is ſafety, and the houſe would not be angry with him, if he ſaid, that if a greater number was put into this houſe with more wiſdom, it would be a very deſirable thing.

The amendment of 1200 was not agreed to. The reſolution was put and aſſented to, as was the ſecond, and referred to Meſſrs. Fitzſimons, Evans and Lollar to report thereon.

Then was read a meſſage from the honorable ſupreme executive council, which containing ſome matters not proper to be inſerted in the public prints, the gallery was cleared, and the houſe afterwards adjourned. (To be continued in our next.)

Foreign Intelligence.

LONDON. Auguſt 5.

IT is remarkable, that though the tax on attornies was grievouſly complained of as ſingling out an *induſtrious* body of men as an object of perſecution, that not one of them has been convicted for neglecting to take out his licence. This may be owing to the act not requiring them to write over their doors 'Licenſed to deal in law by retail.' And why they ſhould be exempted from that formality more than other dealers who take out licences, ſeems to have been owing to ſome partiality in the legiſlature.

Auguſt 12. Yeſterday after the levee was over, there was a council held to determine on the mode of diſpoſing of Miſs Nicholſon, who attempted his majeſty's life; the reſult was, that ſhe was to be ſent to Bedlam for life.

Dean Tucker ſays, the ſtarving, robbing and plundering the poor defenceleſs natives of the Eaſt-Indies, was a *ſpecies of villainy* for which the Engliſh language had not a name until it adopted the word *nabobing*.

On Wedneſday evening, about nine o'clock, the following melancholy accident happened in Oxford-ſtreet: As William Roe, eſq. of Hanover-ſtreet, ſurgeon and dentiſt to his majeſty and the prince of Wales was coming on horſe back by Park-lane, a kite in a boy's hand ſtarted the animal, who threw him on the ſtones, and in the fame inſtant kicked him ſeveral times on the head. He was carried home a moſt mangled ſpectacle, where he expired about one o'clock yeſterday morning.

An ingenious fellow is now going about the country, exhibiting, at a penny a piece, the identical knife with which Margaret Nicholſon made the attempt on his majeſty, and ſuch is the curioſity and credulity of *John Bull*, that there is no doubt but the exhibitor will be amply rewarded for his trouble.

Yeſterday a meſſenger arrived at the ſecretary of ſtate's office, with the important advice of the death of Frederick the third, king of Pruſſia, which happened on Friday laſt. Frederick the Great was born on the 25th of January, 1712. He married on the 12th of June, 1733, Elizabeth Chriſtiana, of Brunſwick Wolfenbuttle. Frederick IV was born on the 25th of September, 1744: he married July 14, 1765, 1ſt, the princeſs Elizabeth Chriſtiana Ulrica, of Brunſwick Wolfenbuttle: and ſecondly, on the 14th of July, 1769, Frederick Louiſa, of Heſſe Darmſtadt, and he has iſſue by both marriages.

The death of the king of Pruſſia will conſiderably affect the politicks of Europe. It is an event for which the nations have been preparing for many months, and which will not be ſuffered to paſs over unimproved. The emperor will now, perhaps, find other employment for his troops than merely preparing them for war; and he will give an opportunity to the new king to illuſtrate his character. It is ſaid of Frederick IV that he poſſeſſes the ſtrong features of his uncle's character: that he has imbibed his politics, and will religiouſly follow his foot-ſteps. If he does not, what will become of the embarraſſed ſtockholder?

Letters from Conſtantinople give a ſignal inſtance of the humanity and juſtice of the preſent grand ſignior, which took place the 9th of laſt month: the capigi pachi, who contracted to furniſh the Ottoman fleet with proviſions, had ſent on board a great quantity of biſcuit, made with flour from wheat of what is called the *ſmut*, which produced a putrid diſorder among the ſeamen ſoon after they left the Dardanelles: the captain pacha, or high admiral, diſpatched a galley with ſamples of the bread, and a complaint againſt the avaricious and inhuman conduct, whoſe guilt being ſubſtantiated, his ſublime highneſs commanded his head to be ſtruck off, and that with his body to be expoſed three days to public view on the gates of the ſeraglio. One of the biſcuits in queſtion was faſtened to his breaſt with an inſcription, importing "that ſuch puniſhment ſhould await all who are greedy to enrich themſelves by fraud and cruelty."

The Stambol Effendi, or ſupreme judge of affairs at the Porte, was baniſhed for life (after a confiſcation of all his property) to Gallipoli, for being concerned with the capigi pachi in the above infamous tranſaction. The Ruſſian miniſter has not left the Porte, as had been reported, but was employed in negociating the diſputes occaſioned by the hoſtilities committed by the Georgians.

A cuſtom prevailed in this country for a ſhort time after the Norman conqueſt, of hanging a man firſt, and trying him afterwards: it has been revived in the caſe of M. Nicholſon, who was pronounced downright inſane by the Gazette; though it took ſeveral days afterwards to prove the fact.

The monument intended to be erected to the memory of Samuel Butler, the ingenious author of Hudibras, is, we hear, in great forwardneſs, and will be put up in St. Paul's, Covent Garden, in a few days.

Mr. Barber, an alderman of the city of London, erected a monument to the memory of the above mentioned poet ſeveral years ſince, in Weſtminſter-abbey, on which occaſion the following epigram was written.

Whilſt Butler, needy wretch, was yet alive,
No generous patron would a dinner give:
But, lo! behold! when dead, the mouldering duſt,
Rewarded by a monumental buſt!

A poet's fate in emblem here is ſhown,
He aſk'd for bread, and he receiv'd a ſtone.

Dublin, Auguſt 3. The impolitic orders iſſued from the Engliſh government to the Weſt India governors, not to ſuffer any American goods to be imported but in Britiſh bottoms, is a bone which the iſlanders are not willing to pick, and may, in time, be productive of the moſt fatal conſequences to the mother country.

Auguſt 15. The empreſs of Ruſſia has moſt judiciouſly emancipated the peaſantry of her late acquired dominions in Poland, and thereby gained a very conſiderable addition of ſubjects. It is, indeed, concerely to be lamented, that the wretched ſtate of peaſantry of this kingdom is not more particularly attended to, in order to alleviate thoſe burthens and grievances which bear ſo very oppreſſively upon them, and which prevent a ſubſtantial yeomanry from being found among us.

In the northern regions of Europe the cultivation of trees is an object of wiſe attention, but it is by law enacted, that when one tree is cut down, two muſt be planted in its ſtead, which ſupplies a plentiful ſucceſſion of timber; but while our woods, groves and foreſts are daily hewing down by luxurious, and of courſe needy landlords, not a tree is to be put up in their places, nor the leaſt conſideration had of ſo material a part of the national intereſt.

Edinburgh, Auguſt 1. Extract of a letter from Dublin, July 7.

"Any miſunderſtanding between the military and citizens, muſt be of the moſt dangerous nature. An affair that wore the moſt ſerious aſpect, took place on Sunday laſt. It ſeems that ſome officers of the garriſon, very early that morning, had an affray in St. Paul's pariſh; one man was ſo dreadfully wounded by their ſwords, that he is ſince ſaid to have died.—After a ſevere conflict with the watchmen who aſſembled, they were at length diſarmed and ſecured. They were immediately conveyed to the new priſon, but in the forenoon, the regiment to which they belonged, got intelligence of the affair, and a mutiny was declared to be in the garriſon. Thoſe infatuated men, had come, incenſed, to the deſperate reſolution, of proceeding in a body to the new priſon, deſtroying the guard placed there in caſe of reſiſtance, to break open the priſon, and by force liberate their officers. Accordingly they had every diſpoſition made for the purpoſe, when fortunately the effuſion of blood that muſt be the inevitable conſequence of their daring project being put in execution, was prevented by a diſcovery of the plan juſt as it was ripe for practice. Every exertion was then made by the officers, much to their credit: the guards were immediately doubled: the barrack gates cloſed, and none of the ſoldiery ſuffered to paſs or repaſs upon any account whatever. There was the ſtrongeſt occaſion for this preſcaution, for every private of the regiment had actually provided himſelf with ſix rounds of ball cartridge, and from ſome of their own declamations afterwards, it appeared it was their abſolute intention to march in full uniform, with their ſide arms and firelocks through the city, in perfect order, to the new priſon. At length, through the activity and exertions of the different officers, things were reſtored to order, and this affair, which was of ſuch a formidable aſpect, ſuppreſſed. It is really ſhocking to reflect on the circumſtance that muſt have enſued, had this ſcheme of the ſoldiery been put in execution. Excluſive of the blood that muſt have been ſhed, the new priſon now teems with abandoned villains, who muſt have been, in conſequence, let looſe again to commit their depredations on the public."

American Occurrences.

NEWBURY-PORT, October 11.

A number of perſons in this town have it in contemplation to form themſelves into a ſociety for the relief of the induſtrious poor. Their plan is for each member to advance ſuch ſum of money as may be agreed on, in order to purchaſe wool, flax, &c. and pay for the manufacturing of them into cloth, which, when made, is to be diſpoſed of for the benefit of the ſociety. The wool, &c. &c. to be delivered in ſmall quantities to ſuch as are diſpoſed to ſpin, and paid for in money on its being returned, according to the degree of fineneſs to which it may be drawn. Such an inſtitution muſt certainly have a tendency to leſſen the cry of poverty, which is continually heard in our ſtreets, and prove a ſeaſonable relief to poor widows and others who are diſpoſed to get an honeſt livelihood.

CARLISLE, September 20.

The heavy rain which fell laſt Sunday night, we fear has made great havock among the farming people, as the creeks and runs near this town were impaſſable without boats. The wells in the town had increaſed water from four to ſeven feet, and ſome mill dams received conſiderable damage.

PHILADELPHIA, October 4.

Yesterday commenced the drawing of the lottery for the lands laid out by the state, and given as a donation to the officers and men of the late Pennsylvania line, in the federal army, in due proportions to each. What add to the dignity of this bounty is, that Pennsylvania hath excused these lands from payment of any taxes so long as they live, or so long as they hold them, so that the worthy veteran may there sit down and reap the fruits of his well-earned labour.

Oct. 10. Thursday night last a very heavy gust of rain and wind, from the south east, fell in and near this city, and we suppose extended a considerable distance in the country, as the waters of the Delaware and Schuylkill, since that time, have risen several feet higher than usual, by which the goods in several warehouses on the wharves were much damaged, and the meadows on both rivers overflowed, the banks being beat down by the violence of the wind and rain: this latter damage is severely felt by the owners of that property who had, at much trouble and expence, just repaired the devastation of the floods last spring.

Oct. 23. His excellency John Adams, esq; and his lady are at the Hague. He has had a conference with the president of the states general, but the subject is not known.

Thursday evening, at eight o'clock, a fire broke out in the stable of Dr. Gehaun, in Second-street, which entirely consumed the same, together with a small dwelling and stable adjoining: they were back buildings and enclosed on all sides by dwelling houses, but by the seasonable collection of the inhabitants, and the activity of the several fire companies, the flames were prevented from spreading. It is supposed that the fire was communicated by some squibs, thrown by disorderly and mischievous boys, as a penthouse of one of the adjacent houses was, a few evenings before, set on fire by a squib, but being early discovered was easily extinguished.

Copy of a letter from a gentleman in Mulberry Grove State of Franklan l, to his friend in this city; dated August 14, 1786.

"The bloodthirsty and restless disposition of the Indians have compelled me to step forth in defence of my country: for, notwithstanding the solemn treaty entered into with Congress, the Cherokees have frequently committed the most cruel murders on our frontiers, and last fall on the Creeks and northward Indians. A party came into this settlement about 4 weeks ago, pretended the greatest friendship, and informed, that a party of Creek Indians was then out, and intended to fall on our frontiers; and, in order that no mischief should be done, the Indians that we expected wished to be friendly--it was agreed on between the white people and the Indians, that when any of the Cherokee Indians should come into our settlements, they should bring in a white flag, and say, Chato, a smerk and word of distinction. The Indians in a few days after came with a flag, and decoyed two young men out, and after speaking with them in a friendly manner, propose to swap guns, and by that means got the guns out of their hands, and instantly shot both of them, one of whom lived about twenty-four hours, and the other two days. They perfectly knew them to be the Indians that had been at the station, and pretended to be friends. Captain Hinds immediately informed me of the circumstances of the murder, and took an Indian that was then hunting in the neighbourhood, prisoner, and sent him with letters to the nation, to demand satisfaction for the murder, by requesting the Indians to give up the murderers: this request was not complied with by the Indians. I then embodied a part of my regiment, and was joined at the mouth of French Broad by colonel Outlaw, and lieutenant colonel Conway, of Caswell, with one hundred choice men of that regiment, also lieutenant colonel Wair, of Saveer county, with about fifty men: we then marched to the Chota ford, where we found the river almost impassable, as there was a swell in it; but each officer and soldier seemed willing to encounter every danger rather than delay our march. The river was about half a mile over, and I think the water ran over the backs of most of our horses one-third of the way--it was to be admitted that very few but got their guns wet in crossing ---- The Indians met us on the south side of the river, proposed peace, but would not give up the murderers. We received certain accounts that the Indians who committed the murder lived in a town called Coytoy, and was then in town. We marched against the town, killed four Indians, burnt the town house and several other houses, destroyed a large quantity of corn in that town, but permitted the other towns to remain unhurt. The number of men I marched against the nation did not exceed three hundred, including officers. I cannot, in justice to those gallant officers and soldiers I had the honor to command, omit observing that their strict adherence to good order, and their undaunted spirit, might have done honor to the best regular troops: nor can too much be said of colonels Outlaw and Conway. After destroying the town we made peace with the whole nation: and assured them, that whenever they committed any murder, we would burn and destroy the town that did the mischief. I am very sorry to observe, that although this country nobly fought and bled in the cause of American liberty, that no effectual measures are yet taken to receive the state of Frankland into the federal union, who only wishes North-Carolina to comply with her act of cession, and the union to accept the same with all its conditions and reservations

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Pittsburgh, November 18.

Extracts from the Journal of Congress; New-York, August 24, 1786.

"On the report of the committee, consisting of Mr. Johnson, Mr. Symmes and Mr. Manning, to whom was referred a letter from lieutenant colonel Harmar to the secretary at war, together with another letter from Mr. Etwein, to the secretary of Congress, both relative to the Moravian Indians:

Resolved, That the secretary at war give orders to lieutenant colonel Harmar, that he signify to the Moravian Indians, lately come from the river Huron to Cayahoga, that it affords pleasure to Congress to hear of their arrival; and that they have permission to return to their former settlement on the Muskinghum, where they may be assured of the friendship and protection of the United States: and that lieutenant colonel Harmar supply the said Indians after their arrival at Muskinghum, with a quantity of Indian corn, not exceeding five hundred bushels, out of the public store on the Ohio, and deliver the same to them at Fort M'Intosh, as soon after next Christmas as the same may be procured; and that he furnish the said Indians with twenty Indian axes, twenty corn hoes, and one hundred blankets: and that the board of treasury and secretary at war take order to carry the above into effect.

Friday night the 10th instant, departed this life, after a short illness, Mr. JOSEPH HALL, Printer, in the 22d year of his age.

Mr. PRINTER,

I PROTESS myself to be an honest farmer, for I can say, that no man ever charged me with a dishonest action. I see, with great grief, that all the country is afflicted as well as myself; every one is complaining and telling his grievances, but I find they do not tell how their troubles come on them. I know it is common for people to throw the blame of their own misdeeds on others, or at least excuse themselves of the charge. I am in great tribulation: but to keep up the above character of an honest man, I cannot, in conscience, say that any one has brought my trouble on me but myself. Hard times---no money---says every one. A short story of myself, will shew you how it came hard times---and no money---with me, at the age of 63, who have lived well these forty years. My parents were poor, and they put me at 12 years of age to a farmer, with whom I lived till I was 21; my master fitted me out with two stout suits of homespun, four pair of stockings, four woollen shirts, and two pair of shoes; this was my whole fortune at my setting out in the world, and I thought it a good one: at 22 I married me a wife, and a very working young woman she was: we took a farm of 40 acres on rent, by industry we gained a-head fast; I paid my rent punctually, & laid by money: in 10 years I was able to buy me a farm of 60 acres, on which I became my own tenant. I then in a manner grew rich, and soon added another 60 acres, with which I was content; my estate increased beyond all account: I bought several lots of out-land for my children, which amounted to 7, when I was 45 years old; about this time I married my oldest daughter to a clever lad, to whom I gave 100 acres of my out-land; this daughter had been a working, dutiful child, and I fitted her out well, and to her mind; for I told her to take of the best of my wool and flax, and to spin herself gowns, coats, stockings and shifts; nay, I suffered her to buy some cotton, and make into sheets, as I was determined to do well by her; at this time my farm gave me and my whole family a good living on the produce of it, and never laid out (besides my taxes) more than 10 dollars a year, which was for salt, nails and the like; nothing to wear, eat or drink was purchased, as my farm provided all: with this saving I put money to interest, bought cattle, fatted and sold them, and made great profit: in two years after, my second daughter was courted; my wife says, come, father, you are now rich, you know Molly had nothing but what she spun, and no other clothing has ever come into our house for any of us. Sarah must be fitted out a little, she ought to fare as well as neighbour N---'s Betty; I must have some money and go to town. Well, wife, it shall be as you think best; I never was stingy, but it seems to me that what we spin at home will do: however, wife goes down in a few days, and returns with a calico gown, a calimanco petticoat, a set of stone tea cups, half a dozen pewter tea spoons, and a tea kettle, things that were never seen in my house before; they cost but little, I did not feel it, and I confess I was pleased to see them: Sarah was as well fitted out as any girl in the township: in 3 years more my third daughter had a spark, and wedding being concluded upon, wife comes again for the purse; but when she returned, what did I see! a silken gown, silk for a cloak, looking glass, china tea geer, and a hundred other things, with the empty purse; but this was not the worst of it, Mr. Printer, some time before the marriage of this last daughter, and ever since, this charge increased in my family: besides all sorts of household furniture unknown to us before, cloathing of every sort is bought, and the wheel goes only for the purpose of exchanging our substantial cloath, of flax and wool, for gauze, ribbons, silk, tea, &c. my butter, which used to go to market, and brought money, is now expended on the tea-table; my time of breakfast, which used to take ten minutes in eating milk, or pottage made of it, now takes my whole family an hour at tea or coffee; my lambs, which used also to bring cash, are now eaten at home, or if sent to market, are brought back in things of no use; so that, instead of laying up 150 dollars a year, I find now all my loose money is gone, my best debts called in and expended: and being straitened, I can't carry on my farm to so good advantage; that it brings me not near as much; that what it costs me to live (though a less family, and all able to work) is fifty or sixty dollars a year more than what all my farm brings me. Now this has gone on a good many years, and has brought hard times into my family; and if I can't reform it, ruin must follow; my land must go; I am not alone, so in our township have gone hand in hand with me; and they all say, hard times. Now, Mr. Printer, I don't know how you live, may be you are more frugal than we are, or as all of us used to be: but I am still master of my own house; I am determined to alter my way of living to what it was 20 years ago, when I laid up 150 dollars a year; I know I can do it, for I have got all my land yet; with good management it will yield me as much as ever; I will encrease my sheep, my flax ground and my orchard; my produce fetches (scarce as money is) as much as it used to do. No one thing to eat, drink or wear shall come into my house, which is not raised on my farm, or in the township, or in the country, except salt and iron work for repairing my buildings and tools; no tea, sugar, coffee or rum. The tea kettle shall be sold. I shall then, Mr. Printer, live and die with a good conscience; my taxes, which appear now intolerable, will then be easy; my younger children and my grand children will see a good example before them, and I shall feel happy in seeing a reform of abuse, which has been growing on me ners 20 years. If you will tell my story, it may work some good, and you shall have my lasting thanks.

A FARMER.

FREEMAN & SAVEREN,

Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers,

MAKES in the newest fashion and neatest manner, all kinds of Cabinet work; also, they do the business of Upholsters in the different branches. They are determined to ask the lowest prices for their work and hope by their attention to the commands of those who please to employ them, to merit a continuance of their favors. Pittsburgh, Nov. 17, 1786.

Union Town, Fayette county, October 19, 1786.

COMMITTED to the gaol of this county as a runaway, a certain William Newton, who says he belongs to Charles Croxall, of the state of Maryland. This is to give notice to his said master, that unless he comes, pays charges and takes him away, he will be sold on the 18th of November next for his fees.

JAMES HAMMOND, Sheriff.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, living in Rostraver township, Westmoreland county on the 27th of September, a light coloured sorrel Mare, about 5 years old, 13 hands and 3 inches high, has a blaze in her face, shod before, some small white spots on each side of her head: a natural trotter. The owner is desired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take her away.

PETER ELROD.

November 12.

AN OFFICE

For the Purchase and Sale of the various kinds of Continental and State Certificates. Also Houses, Lots and Lands, by

MATTHEW M'CONNEL,

ON the east side of Second street, between Market and Chesnut streets, seven doors below Black Horse-alley, Philadelphia. Who furnishes Certificates for the Land Office, and will carry the warrants through, clear of any commission.

All applications and orders from persons residing in any part of this, or of the United States, will be punctually attended to; whether to make purchases or sales, payments in the land office, or to receive interest at the continental loan office or state treasury.

An ENQUIRY into the EFFECTS of SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS upon the HUMAN BODY, and their INFLUENCE upon the HAPPINESS of SOCIETY. By BENJAMIN RUSH, M. D. Profeſſor of Chemiſtry in the Univerſity of Philadelphia.

(Continued from our laſt.)

2. BEER is a wholeſome liquor compared with ſpirits. The grain from which it is obtained is not liable, like the apple, to be affected with froſt, and therefore it can always be procured at a moderate expence. It abounds with nouriſhment---hence we find many of the common people in Great-Britain endure hard labour with no other food than a quart or three pints of this liquor, with a few pounds of bread a day. I have heard with great pleaſure of breweries being ſet up in ſeveral of the principal county towns of Pennſylvania, and I eſteem it a ſign of the progreſs of our ſtate in wealth and happineſs, that a ſingle brewer in Cheſter county ſold above 1000 barrels of beer laſt year. While I wiſh to ſee a law impoſing the heavieſt taxes on whiſky diſtilleries; I ſhould be glad to ſee breweries (at leaſt for ſome years) wholly exempted from taxation.

3. Wine is likewiſe a wholeſome liquor compared with ſpirits. The low wines of France I believe could be drank at a leſs expence than ſpirits in this country. The peaſants in France, who drink theſe liquors in large quantities, are a healthy and ſober body of people. Wines of all kinds yield, by chemical analyſis, the ſame principles as cyder, but in different proportions; hence they are both cordial and nouriſhing. It is remarked that few men become habitual drunkards upon wine. It derives its teſtiſh principally from company, and is ſeldom like ſpirituous liquors, drank in a chimney corner or in a cloſet. The effects of wine upon the temper are likewiſe in moſt caſes directly oppoſite to thoſe that were mentioned of ſpirituous liquors. It muſt be a bad heart, indeed, that is not rendered more chearful and more generous by a few glaſſes of wine.

4. Vinegar and water ſweetened with ſugar or molaſſes, is the beſt drink that can be contrived in warm weather. I beg leave to recommend this wholeſome mixture to reapers in a particular manner. It is pleaſant and cooling. It promotes perſpiration, and reſiſts putrefaction. Vinegar and water conſtituted the only drink of the ſoldiers of the Roman republic; and it is well known that they marched, and fought in a warm climate, and beneath a load of arms that weighed 60lbs. Boaz, a wealthy farmer in Paleſtine, we find treated his reapers with nothing but bread dipped in vinegar. Say not, that ſpirits have become neceſſary in harveſt, from the habit and cuſtom of the country. The cuſtom of ſwallowing this liquid fire is a bad one, and the habit of it may be broken. Let half a dozen farmers in a neighbourhood, combine to allow higher wages to their reapers than are common, and a ſufficient quantity of any of the liquors I have recommended, and they may ſoon aboliſh the practice of giving them ſpirits. They will in a little while be delighted with the good effects of their aſſociation. Their grain will be ſooner and more carefully gathered into their barns, and an hundred diſagreeable ſcenes of ſickneſs and contention will be avoided, which always follow in a greater or leſs degree the uſe of ſpirituous liquors. Under this head I ſhould not neglect to recommend butter milk and water, or four milk (commonly called bonneclabber) and water. It will be rendered more grateful by the addition of a little ſugar. Punch is likewiſe calculated to leſſen the effects of heat, and hard labour upon the body. The ſpirit in this liquor is blunted by its union with the vegetable acid. Hence it poſſeſſes not only the conſtituent parts, but moſt of the qualities of cyder and wine. To render this liquor perfectly innocent and wholeſome, it muſt be drank weak----in moderate quantities---and only in warm weather.

There are certain claſſes of people to whom I beg leave to ſuggeſt a caution or two upon the uſe of ſpirituous liquors.

1. Valetudinarians, eſpecially thoſe who labour under diſorders of the ſtomach and bowels, are very apt to fly to ſpirits for relief. Let ſuch people be cautious how they repeat this dangerous remedy. I have known many men and women of excellent characters and principles, who have been betrayed by occaſional doſes of gin or brandy to eaſe the cholic, into a love of ſpirituous liquors, inſomuch that they have afterwards fallen ſacrifices to their fatal effects. The different preparations of opium are a thouſand times more ſafe and innocent than ſpirituous liquors in all ſpaſmodic affections of the ſtomach and bowels. So apprehenſive am I of the danger of contracting a love for ſpirituous liquors, by accuſtoming the ſtomach to their ſtimulus, that I think the fewer medicines we exhibit in ſpirituous vehicles the better.

(To be continued in our next.)

Pittſburgh, July 10, 1786.

THE Partnerſhip of CRAIG, BAYARD, & Co. having diſſolved the 1ſt inſtant: all perſons indebted to them by Bond, Note, or Book Account, are hereby earneſtly requeſted to ſettle the ſame with DANIEL BRITT & Co. Contractors, at Pittſburgh, who are fully authoriſed and empowered to receive and diſcharge them: and all Perſons who have Claims againſt the ſaid CRAIG, BAYARD & Co. are deſired to apply for ſettlement as aforeſaid.

Their Country Cuſtomers are hereby informed, that PRODUCE will be taken in diſcharge of their Debts at the Cash Price, if delivered on or before the 1ſt day of October next; and all Accounts that are not diſcharged on or before that Time, will be put into the hands of an Attorney, without reſpect of Perſons: they therefore hope, from the indulgence already given that ſuch diſagreeable meaſures will be avoided.

DANIEL BRITT & Co.

Have for Sale, a General Aſſortment of

MERCHANDIZE,

WHICH will be Sold on reaſonable Terms for Caſh, Flour, Whiſky, Beef, Pork, Bacon, Wheat, Rye, Oats, Corn, Aſhes, Candlewick, Tallow, &c. &c. Pittſburgh, July 28.

GINGSENG.

A QUANTITY of good GINSENG wanted by the ſubſcribers, for which a generous Price will be allowed in Merchandize.

It muſt not be dried in an oven, or in any manner that will dry it too quickly: the roots muſt be kept as whole as poſſible.

DANIEL BRITT & Co. Contractors.

CERTIFICATES for the LAND OFFICE

MAY be had of the ſubſcriber, at his office in Market ſtreet, between Fourth and Fifth ſtreets, nearly oppoſite the ſign of the Black Bear, where every perſon applying may be furniſhed with the exact ſum they may have occaſion for in the land office, and their warrants carried through without any other charge than the fees of the different offices, by

THOMAS FORREST.

Who buys and ſells all kinds of CERTIFICATES of this ſtate, or any of the United States.

Philadelphia, Sept. 2, 1786.

Juſt opened and to be ſold by the ſubſcriber living on the bank of the river, between Mr. David Duncan's and Mr. John Orm ſby's.

A LARGE and general aſſortment of DRY and WET GOODS, which he will diſpoſe of on the moſt reaſonable terms for caſh, country produce, peltry or ginſeng.

JOHN GIBSON.

SECRETARY's OFFICE.

Philadelphia, Auguſt 31, 1786.

NOTICE is hereby given, That agreeably to the 16th ſection of an act of general aſſembly, entitled, "An act for directing the mode of diſtributing "the donation lands promiſed to the troops by the "commonwealth," return has been made to council of the draughts of lots laid down within the limits of the lands, and that it is now ordered, "That the drawing of the lottery for, and the patenting of the ſaid "lots, ſhall commence on the 1ſt day of October "next: to be continued for one year from the 29th "inſtant." JOHN ARMSTRONG, jun. ſec'ry.

To the County Commiſſioners in Weſtmoreland

THE ſubſcriber is apprehenſive of a miſtake of the name of Samuel inſtead of Matthew, in your liſt of arrearages for tax in Fairfield Townſhip. As I have a place in that townſhip, and the tax for 1785, the ſame ſum as in your liſt, I have paid, though in public it ſtands againſt me, and there is only five ſhillings and nine pence due, which you ſhall have the firſt opportunity I have of conveyance: but if you cannot wait, pleaſe to call on captain Morton or major Wilſon, and they will pay this for once rather than a plantation ſhould be ſold for five ſhillings and nine pence. This gentlemen is only on the ſuppoſition of a miſtake of the name, from your's,

MATTHEW HENDERSON.

Chartiers, Waſhington County,
October 23, 1786.

Meſſrs. SCULL & HALL.

FOR the ſatisfaction of perſons who have entruſted me with buſineſs in the way of law, I take the liberty to mention in your paper, that I ſhall return from Philadelphia before the next ſitting of the county courts, and attend them.

H. H. BRACKENRIDGE.

Pittſburgh, October 30, 1786.

To be ſold at public vendue, by Wilſon and Wallace, on Saturday the 23 of December, at the houſe of William Wilſon, in Pittſburgh, the following Goods, the property of Mr. Valck. There will be ſix months credit given for all ſums exceeding twenty ſhillings, by giving bond with ſufficient ſecurity.

ELEVEN yards calico, 29 and a quarter do. blue cloath, 15 do. red, 41 and an half do. ſwanſkin, 4 and a quarter do. ſuperfine ſcarlet, 605 flints, 56 white ruffled ſhirts, 64 do. 18 calico do. 153 calico do. 78 doz. ſilver broaches, 21 5-12 doz. ear-rings, 8 ſilver lockets, 5 doz. looking glaſſes, No. 5. 1 and three-quarter doz. do. No. 4. 3 and a half doz. do. No. 3. 2 and a quarter doz. do. No. 2. 800 needles, 3 plated ſpurs, 2 groſs womens thimbles, 1 do. do. 11 and two-third do. mens do. 4 and two-fifths bundles braſs wire, 9 and three-quarters do. 56 oval gilt looking glaſſes, 2 groſs metal bells, half a pound knitting needles, 2 hair trunks, 11 ſaddles, 7 and a quarter pieces garters, 3 groſs herring bone lace, one tent 5 and an half ounces brown thread, 1 and three quarters pound coloured do. 1 and one ſixth of a doz. horn combs, 5 and 7-12 doz. Indian awls, 5 ſteel beaver traps, 3 do. with chains, 9 powder horns, 3 dozen butcher knives, 1 and two-thirds of a doz. ſcalping knives, 75 fiſh hooks, 65 do. 50 do. 200 do. 375 do. 5lb. beſt vermillion, 648lb. lead, 19 braſs kettles, 51lb. gun powder, 7 kegs do. 1lb 9 ounces barley corn, 4 and a half ounces ſeeds, 3 do. agath. 7 blankets, 1 pair of ſcales. Nov. 3.

FOUR DOLLARS REWARD.

STRAYED from the lands of Bruſh Creek on the 14th of September laſt, a dark bay Gelding, 3 years old, about 14 and a half hands high, a natural trotter, has a ſnip and ſtar, ſcarcely perceivable, carries well, his hind feet white, a long buſhy tail.---Whoever takes up ſaid gelding, and delivers him to Mr. John Irwin, at Bruſh Creek, or the ſubſcriber in Pittſburgh, ſhall receive the above reward and reaſonable charges, paid by

GEORGE COCHRAN.

October 26, 1786.

N. B. Said Gelding is branded with W.

ANY perſon or perſons having demands againſt Daniel Broadhead, jun. are deſired to bring them to the ſubſcriber, who is authoriſed to ſettle the ſame. The ſubſcriber means to continue buſineſs, as formerly, at Peter's Creek, Waſhington County: he has furniſhed himſelf with a neat aſſortment of Dry Goods, which he will diſpoſe of on the moſt reaſonable terms for caſh, country produce, peltry or ginſeng.

Bell Mont, Nov. 8, 1786. JOHN M'DONALD

ASHES WANTED.

THE ſubſcribers will give one ſhilling per buſhel, in Caſh, for all good Wood Aſhes, delivered at this place before Chriſtmas.

DANIEL BRITT & Co.

Pittſburgh, Nov. 10.

A BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES

WILL be opened on Wedneſday the 15th inſtant, by Mrs. PRIDE, in the houſe where John Gibſon formerly lived, behind his ſtone houſe. Where they will be taught the following branches of needle work, viz.

Plain Work	Fringing
Coloured ditto	Dreſden
Flowering	Tambouring, and
Lace, both by the bobin & needle	Embroidering.

Alſo, Reading Engliſh, and knitting if required.

Mrs. Pride from the long experience ſhe has had as a teacher, and the liberal encouragement ſhe has met with hitherto, both in Britain and Philadelphia, flatters herſelf, that by the utmoſt attention in teaching the ſaid branches, as alſo taking the ſtricteſt care of the morals and good breeding of the young ladies placed under her care, that upon tryal ſhe will alſo merit the approbation and encouragement of the inhabitants on this ſide the Alleghany Mountain.

Pittſburgh, Nov. 13, 1786.

ALL perſons who have open accounts with the ſubſcribers are hereby requeſted to produce them for ſettlement: and ſuch as are indebted to them and do not make payment thereof before the 20th day of November next, will have their accounts immediately put in ſuit. As they wiſh to decline buſineſs here, the remaining part of their goods will be ſold cheap for money.

WM. & THOS. GRENOUGH.

Pittſburgh, Oct. 2d, 1786.

PITTSBURGH: *Printed and Sold by* JOHN SCULL, *at his Printing-Office in Water-ſtreet, near the Ferry, where* Subſcriptions (at [illegible] per ann.) Advertiſements, *&c. for this Paper, are thankfully received, and* PRINTING *in its different Branches is done with Care, Elegance, and Expedition.*---ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding a Square are Inſerted Three Weeks for a Dollar, and every continuance after one-fourth of a Dollar; thoſe exceeding a ſquare [illegible] inſerted in proportion.